

RADIN

WINNEBAGO ARCHEOLOGY

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The tradi-
 tions speak only of Green Bay as their original habitat. On the other
 shore of Green Bay were the Menominee, who likewise have no recol-
 lection of having lived anywhere else. To the northeast, along Door
 Peninsula, were the Potawatomi, unquestionably intruders, who had
 come by way of Mackinaw. To the southwest lay the Sauk and Fox,
 the closely related Kickapoo, and the enigmatic Mascoutin. Finally,

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FIG. 2.—MAP OF WISCONSIN, SHOWING DISTRIBUTION OF CIRCULAR MOUNDS.

to the south lay the Miami. Such seems to have been the distribu-
 tion of the tribes around Green Bay and Lake Michigan at the first
 advent of the whites. Within 50 years of the landing of Nicolet the
 places were entirely shifted. Winnebago villages are found scattered
 all along the Fox River and Lake Winnebago, the Sauk and Fox and
 Kickapoo are on their way farther south, and the Potawatomi are in
 possession of the southern shore of Green Bay and the western shore
 of Lake Michigan. Later still we find the Winnebago extending all

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- 167 along the Wisconsin River and west of it to the Mississippi, and, at the same time, occupying the territory south of Lake Winnebago through the region of the Four Lakes, the shores of Lake Koshkonong and farther down along the Rock River into Illinois. Their eastern boundary was determined by the Potawatomi.
- 172 Let us return now to the distribution of the mounds. Of the three kinds of mounds found in Wisconsin, the conical and oval ones are the



FIG. 2.—MAP OF WISCONSIN, SHOWING DISTRIBUTION OF EFFIGY MOUNDS.

commonest, and they are met with in practically every county of the State in which records have been made. They have also been found in Minnesota. The so-called effigy mounds, on the other hand, have never been found north of a line drawn through the southern boundary of Lincoln County. They have, however, been found in every area which the Winnebago occupied at one time or another,

Tree game.—Two trees are selected about 20 feet apart, one having a branch about 15 feet from the ground. A number of people stand ready at the side of this tree and the one whose turn it is to play tries to hit the branch. When he succeeds in doing so all run toward the other tree. As soon as the player gets the ball he tries to hit the runners. If successful in this before the others have reached the tree he wins; otherwise they are "safe" and he must try again. The Winnebago called this game *kahi'bidjik'u*.

TRAVEL AND TRANSPORTATION

Canoes and dugouts.—All the boats found in the early days in the territory originally inhabited by the Winnebago were dugouts, yet a number of the tribe questioned denied positively that boats of this kind were in common use before the coming of the whites. According to these informants, in former times the Winnebago always had their home in a birch country, and had at hand, therefore, the requisite material for making canoes; moreover, birch-bark canoes were much easier to construct than dugouts, for which logs had to be hollowed by burning—a process that might consume weeks. Only when the whites introduced the ax and the knife did it become practicable to make dugouts. These implements became available at the time of the southern migration of the tribe into a region where birch bark was scarce, and one result of the change was the substitution of the dugout for the canoe. The validity of this explanation is supported by the same line of argument as in the case of the wooden vessels.

Snowshoes. The snowshoes of the Winnebago were similar to those used by the Menominee, with this difference, that the two pieces of wood forming the "handle," instead of being tied together for their whole length, as among the latter, were left unfastened for about 5 inches at the end. This difference is immediately detected (pl. 40) by the present-day Winnebago, who can easily identify, by the feature mentioned, snowshoes belonging to the tribe.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

The musical instruments of the Winnebago seem to have been restricted to the flute, drum, and gourd. The flute was made of red cedar and usually had a range of five or six notes; it was used at many ceremonies, and especially by young men when courting. The drum consisted of a framework (in later days a wooden pail or a barrel served the purpose), over which a skin was drawn very tight. A small quantity of water was always kept in the drum so that the skin could be wet as often as necessary. Rattles consisted of dried gourds filled, in older times, with seeds, in more modern times with buckshot (pl. 30, d, f).